



Proposed Code Change
State Form 41186R

RETURN TO:
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
CODE SERVICES SECTION
302 W. Washington Street Room W246
Indianapolis, IN 46204

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received 6/1/09

Code 41.5-09

INSTRUCTIONS:

Only TYPED copy accepted.

(KEY – Dashed line through material to be deleted, underline material to be added)

Use second sheet for any material requiring more space.

Code Title 2009 Indiana Residential Code		Edition First Edition
Section number and title R313 Automatic fire sprinkler systems, P2904 Dwelling unit fire sprinkler systems		Page 1 of 2
Proponent Craig Wagner	Title Chief Building Inspector/ IABO Code Comm. Member	
Address 220 W Van Buren St, Columbia City IN 46725		Phone 260-248-3111
PROPOSED CODE CHANGE (Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change to read as follows <input type="checkbox"/> Add to read as follows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delete and substitute as follows <input type="checkbox"/> Delete without substitution		
<p>Delete the text of Section R313 and substitute as follows:</p> <p><u>R313.1 Automatic fire sprinkler systems.</u> Where required by local ordinance, fire sprinkler systems shall be installed in townhouses and one- and two- family dwellings. <u>Exception:</u> An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for additions or alterations to existing buildings that are not already provided with an automatic residential fire sprinkler system.</p> <p><u>Section R313</u> <u>Automatic fire sprinkler systems</u> <u>R313.1.4 Design and installation.</u> When installed, <u>A automatic residential fire suppression systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with either Section P2904, or the requirements of P2904.1 and NFPA 13D.</u></p> <p>Change Section P2904 as follows:</p> <p><u>P2904.1 General.</u> Where installed, residential fire sprinkler systems, or portions thereof, shall be in accordance with <u>this paragraph and NFPA 13D,</u> or Section P2904, which shall be considered equivalent to NFPA 13D. Section P2904 shall apply to stand-alone and multipurpose wet-pipe sprinkler systems that do not include the use of antifreeze. A multipurpose fire sprinkler system shall supply domestic water to both fire sprinklers and plumbing fixtures. <u>A These stand-alone sprinkler systems shall be separate and independent from the domestic water distribution system and shall not include the use of antifreeze.</u> A backflow preventer shall not be required to separate a stand-alone the sprinkler system from the water distribution system.</p> <p><u>P2904.3</u> Delete the last sentence of P2904.3 without substitution.</p>		

REASON AND FISCAL IMPACT

Fire sprinkler systems have been proven to dramatically reduce property damage and enhance safety for building inhabitants. This proposal leaves the requirements for these systems in the code while allowing the decision on whether to require the systems to the local jurisdictions. The city officials I have spoken to have stated that they are not currently prepared to adjust to a requirement for fire suppression systems to be installed in all new townhouses and one- and two- family dwellings. Another concern is the lack of requirements in the IRC for backflow prevention. To address these concerns this proposal removes the multipurpose system concept and adds a requirement for backflow prevention. Some utilities have favored a flow-through design for the systems but even then there is no limit to the length of sprinkler head drop thus allowing stagnant water to be cross connected to the domestic system. Some favor a stand alone system that connects directly from the main to the residential fire suppression system (RFSS), while others favor a connection to the building tap before the meter, but most easily accomplished is the one in this proposal that connects the RFSS after the meter but requires a backflow preventer. There have also been stated concerns by water purveyors as to the affect of chlorine to copper RFSS piping and the effect of the chemical standing in the systems for an extended period of time (mainly leaching and corrosion that can affect their readings for the lead and copper rule) by not allowing the multipurpose systems and requiring backflow prevention that concern should be reduced. Sections R313 and P2904 are both included in this proposal since both sections affect each other.

Fiscal impact: there is no increase to the cost of construction if these systems are not required by a local jurisdiction. If required by local ordinance the cost to construction will be \$1.66 to \$6.88 per square foot, or \$3,320 to 13,760 per 2,000SF residential structure.

REVIEW RECOMMENDATION

Approve

Disapprove

Approve as amended 19-4-1 6/11/09 (amended 23-0-1)
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Further Study
